



178
Baranof Island Housing Authority

P.O. Box 517
Sitka AK 99835
(907) 747-5088 • fax (907) 747-5701

December 30, 2005

Jeff Ottesen, Director, Division of Program Development
Department of Transportation and Public Utilities
3132 Channel Drive
Juneau, AK 99801

Subject: Indian River Road Improvements

Dear Mr. Ottesen:

The improvement of Indian River Road in City and Borough of Sitka is one of Baranof Island Housing Authority's (BIHA) highest priorities. BIHA has invested millions of dollars in improvements to Indian River Road and in development of 65 residential housing units and 24 residential lots served by the road. These units provide desperately needed affordable housing in Sitka to households meeting eligibility requirements for BIHA's low income housing programs.

Indian River Road also provides access to many non-BIHA residences, a heavily used trail system, a substance abuse treatment facility, a rock quarry, the Alaska State Troopers academy, a cemetery, and various other destinations.

The current conditions of Indian River Road create health issues related to extreme dust during any dry periods and maintenance issues (extreme "pot holes") during wet periods.

The Indian River Road improvements project has received two federal earmarks in the Federal Transportation Bill: Section 1702, No. 2260 \$2,000,000 and Section 1702, No. 3720 \$500,000. Also, the Alaska State Legislature in 2005 appropriated \$280,000 for this project.

We request that the Indian River Road improvement project be included in the 2006-2006 State Transportation Improvement Program. Also, we request that a project manager be assigned to this project.

If you have questions or we can be of further assistance please
call me at (907)747-5088.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gus Adams", written over the typed name.

Gus Adams,
Executive Director

Cc: Andy Hughes, SE Regional Planning Chief
John C. Stein, Administrator, City and Borough of Sitka
Marlene Campbell, Government Relations Director, C&BS